

Advisory Council on Palliative Care

Minutes

Friday, September 12, 2014

10:00 AM

Legislative Office Building
300 Capitol Ave., Hartford, CT

Present:

Wendy Furniss, DPH; Lori Griffin, DPH; Colleen Mulkerin, Hartford Hospital; Patricia Trotta, VNAHC; Barbara Morrison, YNHH-SRC; Joseph Andrews, CT Hospice; Cynthia Roy, Regional Hospice; Biree Andemariam, UCHC

Public: Bryte Johnson, American Cancer Society; Iris Vazquez, CT Hospice; Betty Gallo, Betty Gallo & Co.; Brad Weeks, The Kowalski Group

I. Minutes Approved

- Colleen Mulkerin motioned to approve; Barbara Morrison seconded the motion.

II. Topics for discussion

- Care Planning projects nationally- Community comes together to develop
 - a. Joint language and mission
 - b. Advance care planning- understanding diagnosis/prognosis- what is medically possible? “Who will speak for you?”
- Wendy Furniss: MOLST Proposal Updates
 - a. Working on implementing a pilot with goal date, Jan. 1, 2015
 - b. Education subcommittee- developing training modules
 - c. Will cover 2 Regions: Greater- New Haven and Eastern CT- Windham
 - d. Policies and procedures to be published in the Fall
 - e. Letters are being drafted to: EMS providers, Hospital based persons, Nursing Homes, and interested Community Physicians.
- Patricia Trotta: Provided a Pamphlet “CT Cancer Plan 2014-2014, Executive Brief”
- Patricia Trotta: Provided a handout “Palliative & Hospice Care Benchmark Data”
- Joseph Andrews mentioned that Journal Watch (www.jwatch.org) has interesting articles. He will check with CCMC if there are any connections with organizations for palliative care

- A Survey Monkey was posted two weeks ago;
 - a. Small amount of data was received so far; most were from home care
 - b. Need to engage more hospitals via CHA
 - c. What services were provided, education, challenges and barriers?
 - d. Need more time – it is too soon to share results due to lack of responses
 - e. Pat will send results.
- Bryte Johnson: Vision Round Table with American Cancer Society
 - a. Meeting sometime in January or February to bring best minds together to discuss:
 - Where the State needs to be with palliative care in 5 yrs.?
 - Barriers
 - Coverage
 - Collaboration
 - Annual event
 - Open to specific topics
 - b. Meeting to be held at the American Cancer Society in Rocky Hill – will be in touch within the next month.

III. Other Topics

- Biree Andemariam: Medical Marijuana
 - a. Patients are asking and she's uninformed
 - b. Who's responsible for this information?
 - c. There's a lack of understanding – education on medication (varies by state)
 - d. Symptom management
 - e. DSS- Physicians apparently don't receive payment for pain management by Medicaid
 - f. Wendy will invite John Gadea from the Dept. of Consumer Protection to speak about the Medical Marijuana program on Nov. 7th.

IV. Key Points

- Wendy will update on MOLST process
- Invite to meeting – John Gadea, DCP
- DSS- Check status of Medicaid payment for painconsult
- Symptom management
- Resources on Medical Marijuana

- Ideas for Advance Care Planning– language
- Look at gaps in our dialogue; developing workforce, culture, religion which affect palliative care
- Meeting with American Cancer Society in January or February
- Build a webpage – add links: resources, articles, references, recommendations, etc.

V. Meeting adjourned at 11:10 am by Chair Mulkerin.